

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/815,760

Examiner

Prabodh M. Dharja

Applicant(s)

ENDO, MICHIKO

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07-28-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15 and 23-25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Art Unit: 2629

1. **Status:** Please all the replies and correspondence should be addressed to Examiner's new art unit 2629. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on 07-28-2006 under amendments, which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 1-15 and 23-25 are pending in this action. Claims 16-22, 26 and 27 are cancelled.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant has cancelled claims 16-22, and prior art rejected claims 26 and 27. Claims 1-15 and 23-25 were allowed. Applicant's arguments, see Remark, filed 07-28-06, with respect to Claims 1-15 and 23-25 regarding "a cylindrical magnet having a center axis; an annular magnet having a center axis in common with the center axis of the cylindrical magnet and having an inner circumference larger than an outer circumference of the cylindrical magnet; a plurality of magnetoelectric transducers disposed in a plane transverse to the common center axes of the cylindrical and annular magnets, wherein: the cylindrical magnet and the annular magnet are disposed so that respective, identical magnetic poles thereof are in opposing relationship, and the annular magnet is tiltable with respect to the cylindrical magnet and the plane of the magnetoelectric transducers, and the magnetoelectric transducers detect a change in a magnetic field caused by tilting of the annular magnet relatively to the cylindrical magnet and the plane of the magnetoelectric transducers, so as to input two-dimensional coordinate values according to the detected change in the magnetic field" have been fully considered, searched and are persuasive as they do overcome prior art rejection; which puts application number 10815760 in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-15 and 23-25 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's argument filed on 07-28-2006 are convincing. As argued by applicant in remarks under claim rejection page 8, paragraphs 2 and 3 the prior art of Louge (5,559,432) in view of Houston (4,853,630) fails to recite or disclose the uniquely distinct features represented by underlined bold claim below;

A coordinate input apparatus for designating a particular set of coordinate in three-dimensional space, comprising: a cylindrical magnet having a center axis; an annular magnet having a center axis in common with the center axis of the cylindrical magnet and having an inner circumference larger than an outer circumference of the cylindrical magnet; a plurality of magnetoelectric transducers disposed in a plane transverse to the common center axes of the cylindrical and annular magnets, wherein: the cylindrical magnet and the annular magnet are disposed so that respective, identical magnetic poles thereof are in opposing relationship, and the annular magnet is tiltable with respect to the cylindrical magnet and the plane of the magnetoelectric transducers, and the magnetoelectric transducers detect a change in a magnetic field caused by tilting of the annular magnet relatively to the cylindrical magnet and the plane of the magnetoelectric transducers, so as to input two-dimensional coordinate values according to the detected change in the magnetic field.

Art Unit: 2629

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh M Dharia whose telephone number is 571-272-7668.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM to 5PM.

6. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:


Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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September 20, 2006


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600